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Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2012

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Economic and Social Council the annual report of the World Food Programme for 2012, as approved by the Board of the Programme in its decision 2013/EB.1/2, which is also attached.

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Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2012*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WFP contributed significantly to United Nations system-wide coherence, partnerships and coordinated efforts to achieve international development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals related to hunger, food security and nutrition. WFP continued systematic and active engagement in inter-agency mechanisms and multilateral collaboration at all levels.

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June marked a milestone in global recognition of the importance of food security and nutrition in pursuing sustainable development towards 2015 and beyond.

WFP worked particularly closely with the Rome-based agencies, as well as the United Nations Children's Fund and other members of the Secretary-General's High-Level Task Force on Global Food Security and the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, to present joint positions for Rio+20 and the post-2015 process. This included supporting the Secretary General's Zero Hunger Challenge and efforts to highlight the importance of food assistance, agriculture, nutrition and gender equality to sustainable development. Working within the United Nations Development Group, and in close consultation with the Committee on World Food Security, WFP and FAO co-led the post-2015 global thematic consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition.

WFP contributed to joint United Nations Development Group positions for United Nations General Assembly deliberations on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review, which focused on increasing the coherence and results orientation of United Nations system-wide efforts.

WFP played an active role at the Fifth High-Level Inter-Governmental Conference on Delivering as One held in Tirana, Albania in June 2012, with the participation of the Executive Director. WFP continued its involvement in "One United Nations" programmes in Delivering as One pilot countries and took an active part in the process to develop standard operating procedures for countries voluntarily adopting the Delivering as One approach, as well as to review cost-sharing models for the Resident Coordinator system.

WFP worked with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and other Inter-Agency Standing Committee members to implement the Transformative Agenda, aimed at improving leadership and accountability in humanitarian assistance. As leader or co leader of three clusters, WFP coordinated

* The present report is being issued without formal editing.

responses to major emergencies in the Sahel, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic.

Collaboration with other Rome-based agencies, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other international organizations on the development and food security agendas of the G20 and G8 contributed to high-level support for food security, nutrition and humanitarian assistance. This included the removal of export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased by WFP for humanitarian purposes.

Important progress on policy coherence regarding safety nets was achieved with the creation of the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board, and with the recommendation of the 39th Session of the Committee on World Food Security regarding the need for strong linkages between social protection and food security.

The annual WFP partnership consultations, which took place in October 2012, were the largest to date. These consultations involved the participation of 48 non-governmental organizations, three international organizations and four United Nations agencies.

Contributing to the Coherence and Effectiveness of the United Nations System

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the Post-2015 Agenda

1. WFP played an active role in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which marked a milestone in the sustainable development agenda, as well as for Rome-based agency (RBA) collaboration. The Secretary-General (SG) deemed Rio+20 a success, with agreement on the Rio outcome document *The Future We Want* representing "an important victory for multilateralism".

2. From the perspective of the RBAs and the SG's High-Level Task Force on Global Food Security (HLTF), Rio+20 marked several major achievements. Issues of hunger, food security and nutrition, resilience-building and gender equality — the main thrust of WFP's collective messaging, position papers and multilateral work — were among the top priority areas. Disaster risk reduction, resilience-building and social protection were other areas in the outcome document of great importance to WFP. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS) and the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement also received due attention.

3. A joint RBA-organized official side event, with high-level, multi-stakeholder participation, constituted the main food security manifestation at Rio+20. During this event, the SG launched the Zero Hunger Challenge, an important initiative on access to food, safety nets, nutrition and smallholder production, in the context of the post-2015 process.

4. WFP also coordinated its preparatory efforts for Rio+20 through, among others, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs Plus mechanism in New York.

5. The SG has facilitated the emergence of an inclusive, consultative course of action on the post-Millennium Development Goal (MDG) process involving a broad range of stakeholders, and a United Nations System Task Team in which WFP was an active participant, and where the RBAs coordinated positions and inputs, leading to an SG report *Realizing the Future We Want for All*, where hunger, food and nutrition feature prominently among the sustainable development dimensions.

6. The United Nations Development Group (UNDG) launched a process of national post 2015 dialogues in over 50 countries, and the convening of global thematic consultations on 11 themes (inequalities; population; health; education; growth and employment; conflict and fragility; governance; environmental sustainability; energy; water; and hunger, food security and nutrition).

7. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WFP are co chairing the UNDG global thematic consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition, together with some of our main partners, and with the Governments of Spain and Colombia as hosts. The outcome of our involvement in these consultation processes is aimed at ensuring, within the post-2015 discussions, that high priority is given to issues of hunger.

8. WFP regional bureaux and country offices are involved in the national dialogues, working with Resident Coordinators and country teams, and in close

coordination with FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other inter-agency partners.

System-Wide Coherence and Reform of Operational Activities for Development

9. WFP continued collaboration with United Nations agencies in line with General Assembly resolutions on the Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review and system wide coherence as well as related ECOSOC resolutions, as member of the Chief Executives' Board (CEB), the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP), the UNDG, and the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM).

10. System-wide coordination in preparation for, and follow up to, Rio+20 were key elements of the work of the CEB and HLCP, where WFP contributed to a focus on issues of hunger and food security and the linkages to sustainable development-related topics, climate change, the implications of population growth and migration, and other issues of relevance to the role of the HLCP in enhancing analytical and programmatic coherence.

11. The UNDG developed joint positions for the SG's Report on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), which should be instrumental in ensuring a more responsive and results-oriented United Nations development system. The QCPR resolution highlights the importance of operational efficiency and coherence at country level, cost effectiveness and harmonization of business practices, and informs the strategic plans of the United Nations operational agencies, funds and programmes.

12. WFP has been coordinating with United Nations agencies including UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UN-Women and the RBAs in the preparation of its Strategic Plan (2014-2017).

13. Following ECOSOC resolution 2011/7, the UNDG reviewed existing funding modalities in support of the Resident Coordinator (RC) System, including appropriate burden-sharing arrangements among relevant United Nations organizations. An independent study was undertaken to provide the UNDG with an overview of the current functions, capacities and funding modalities of the RC System. WFP actively engaged in this review throughout 2012, and the UNDG Chair is expected to brief CEB members on its outcome in 2013.

14. WFP had six active RCs in 2012, including two women, working in Algeria, Cambodia, Comoros, Lesotho, Madagascar and Pakistan. WFP has seven candidates in the RC pools and several staff members participated in the Resident Coordinator Assessment Centre process.

"One United Nations" Initiative

15. WFP, including its Executive Director, were closely involved with UNDG partners in preparations for and participation at the Fifth High-Level Intergovernmental Conference on Delivering as One, held in Tirana in June 2012. The Conference reaffirmed the Delivering as One approach as a driver of reform and system-wide coherence in operational activities for development, stating that the focus should increasingly be on managing for results.

16. The Tirana outcome document recognized that important progress had been achieved at country level and called on agency headquarters and governing bodies

to focus on systemic changes, including the simplification and harmonization of business practices. This area was also highlighted in this year's Independent Evaluation of Lessons Learned from Delivering as One.

17. The Outcome Document asked the United Nations to develop guidance for countries wishing to voluntarily adopt Delivering as One. WFP is part of an inter-agency High Level Group formed to take this task forward under the auspices of the UNDG. These standard operating procedures, organized around the six "pillars" of the Delivering as One approach — one programme, one common budgetary framework, one fund, one leader, one office and one voice — will provide an integrated package of guidance and enable programme countries to make an informed decision on the modalities of delivery of assistance by the United Nations.

18. In the previous reporting year, WFP collaborated with United Nations agencies in 83 joint programmes in 47 countries, an increase from 2010 where WFP reported 74 joint programmes in 45 countries. Country-level activities with partners included participation in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), joint food security assessments, emergency preparedness coordination, and nutrition and school meals interventions.

19. WFP furthered its engagement in Delivering as One pilots in Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania; it also supported countries which have voluntarily adopted Delivering as One approaches. In Mozambique, WFP continued to lead the "One United Nations" telecommunications service, and chaired one of the three UNDAF Development Results Groups, which enhanced coordination in the areas of agriculture, disaster risk reduction, employment, food security and humanitarian assistance. WFP and partners in Pakistan supported the strengthening of early warning systems, vulnerability and risk assessments, along with infrastructure improvements such as the construction of warehouses.

20. Activities within the "One United Nations" pilot in Rwanda were closely aligned with the Government's national development plans that aim to address poverty and food insecurity in rural areas. In the United Republic of Tanzania, interventions with United Nations partners included support to smallholder farmers, assisting the Government through capacity development in emergency preparedness and response, and provision of food assistance and basic services for refugees. WFP also took part in the joint internal audit of Delivering as One in the country.

21. In addition, WFP piloted an auditor exchange with IFAD, where an IFAD auditor joined a WFP audit mission, and a WFP auditor joined an IFAD audit mission.

Simplification and Harmonization of Business Practices

22. One important focus of the HLCM was country-level information and communications technology (ICT) harmonization and standardization. In response to the call for proposals by the Harmonization of Business Practices Working Group of the HLCM, WFP developed a proposal for common ICT projects covering six countries, which will contribute to formulation of a common strategy for United Nations ICT services. WFP also contributed to HLCM work in areas such as human resources, finance and budget and procurement.

23. Through the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) task force, WFP shared lessons learned on IPSAS implementation.

Common Services and Premises

24. WFP currently shares 113 buildings with other United Nations agencies. Approximately half of these shared arrangements occur in sub-offices, indicating significant inter-agency collaboration in premises at the deep field level. WFP joined UNICEF, UNDP and the International Organization for Migration in the new International Humanitarian City offices provided rent free by the Government of the United Arab Emirates. In Bhutan, WFP was active in designing the new United Nations House, which was begun in mid 2012 on land granted by the Government.

25. WFP worked with UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA and the International Code Council to finalize the *Performance-based Guidelines for the Design and Construction of UNDG Common Premises Office Buildings*, which provides technical standards for common premises office safety and comfort.

Performance and Risk Management

26. The HLCM requested that WFP share best practices in implementing a new internal control framework and annual Statement on Internal Control. This exchange of best practices underscores the importance of integrating risk management into dialogue on performance with legislative bodies and Member States, as well as the further integration of risk management into programme planning.

27. Risk management has already been mainstreamed into the development of WFP's operations, and support from integrated missions is provided to high-profile and complex operations. A network of performance and risk champions was established in field offices to monitor risks and mitigation actions. A web-based system was developed to track and record risks automatically in order to further assist in risk analysis.

28. WFP issued a Risk Appetite Statement as an important step towards providing a shared vision throughout the organization and to stakeholders on how WFP views risk.

Resource Management and Accountability

29. The WFP Management Plan (2013-2015) was prepared during WFP's ongoing reorganization. It introduces the realigned structure of WFP and describes the actions required to maximize efficiency and effectiveness in an increasingly complex operating environment.

30. In line with system-wide efforts to enhance business practices, transparency and accountability, recommendations from the revision of WFP's financial framework continued to be implemented. These recommendations are intended to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of food assistance, and ensure transparent funding for tools such as cash and vouchers and capacity development. WFP is also undertaking the necessary enhancements to the WFP Information Network and Global System (WINGS): the first phase was completed in 2012 and the comprehensive solution for the new financial framework is expected to "go live" in 2013.

31. In line with a new policy on disclosure of oversight reports, internal audit and inspection reports will be published on WFP's website. WFP also joined the International Aid Transparency Initiative, signalling a commitment to transparency and common international standards for the publication of aid data.

32. The forward purchase facility greatly enhanced WFP's emergency response capacity. In the Sahel crisis, country offices gained an average of 56 days of supply lead time. Overall, country offices purchasing from the corporate inventory achieved an average gain of 62 days.

Funding for Operational Activities[1]

33. As of November, WFP's funding for the year was expected to reach US$3.75 billion against assessed needs totalling US$6.87 billion. WFP had confirmed US$3.5 billion in contributions from 98 sources, including 90 government donors. Despite global financial challenges, 2012 yielded the first rise in WFP funding since 2008, with over 50 donors giving more in 2012 than in 2011, and 29 donors giving record amounts. WFP's top 20 government donors were: the United States of America, Canada, the European Commission, the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Germany, Sweden, Brazil, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Denmark, France, Finland, Pakistan, Honduras, Iraq and Ireland.

34. An all-time high of US$140 million was contributed by 39 programme governments — 4 percent of total contributions; of this, US$131 million was for operations in their own countries.

35. The need to secure flexible and predictable funding remained a high priority, based on the tenets of good humanitarian donorship and the Paris Declaration. WFP continued to work with government partners on multi-year strategic partnership agreements; Norway was the most recent signatory. By November 2012, multi-year funding had grown to US$391 million — 11 percent of overall contributions — compared to 4 percent in 2010.

36. Multilateral contributions allow for early response while providing the flexibility to allocate funding where it is needed most; 38 donors had provided US$405 million in multilateral funding (12 percent of total contributions). The Immediate Response Account (IRA) continued to be a critical channel for multilateral funding in 2012, facilitating rapid responses in the Sahel, the Horn of Africa and for the Syrian crisis among others. A total of US$43 million had been received for the IRA.

37. WFP received US$193 million from multi-donor funding sources. The Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), among WFP's top funding sources since its inception, provided over US$134 million, the bulk of the support among the multi-donor funds, often as a first call for emergencies. Another US$26 million was provided through pooled humanitarian funding mechanisms at the country level. WFP also received US$7.2 million in 2011 and over US$12 million in 2012 through the expanded Delivering as One funding window.

38. In a continued effort to identify innovative funding mechanisms, WFP is finalizing two agreements for food-for-education activities, similar to the successful Egypt-Italy debt-for-development swap.

39. Twinning arrangements allowed WFP to match donor funds with in-kind contributions from host governments and emerging donors in order to ensure full-cost recovery for transport, distribution and monitoring. Twinning arrangements valued at US$234 million were confirmed by November 2012. This included cash

[1] All 2012 statistics are as of 25 November 2012.

contributions of US$110 million twinned with 281,000 mt of in-kind contributions valued at US$124 million from 16 countries.

40. Donations from the private sector were projected to reach US$55 million by the end of 2012, and WFP's e-mail support base continued to rise, with 49 percent growth in 2012.

Humanitarian Reform

41. In 2012, field-level implementation of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Transformative Agenda began and practical guidelines were developed. The three main focus areas were humanitarian leadership, coordination and accountability. WFP brought a wealth of experience to these components of the Transformative Agenda, ensuring that they constructively address identified weaknesses and that coordination is oriented towards enabling the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

42. Protocols for the declaration of a system-wide response to a level-3 emergency were elaborated along with terms of reference for an empowered Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) during the first three months of a response. A level-3 HC roster was compiled which includes two senior managers from WFP. The Inter-Agency Rapid Response Mechanism was tested to facilitate the swift deployment of staff to support leadership and coordination in a level-3 response. The imperative is to deploy staff rapidly pending more thorough assessments of required support.

43. Another component of the Transformative Agenda involved working with IASC partners to develop a cluster coordination reference module, which provides guidance on the cluster approach on areas such as cluster activation, management arrangements, leadership and performance monitoring.

44. The IASC Principals endorsed five commitments on accountability to affected populations, and agreed to incorporate them into organizational policies and guidelines, and promote them with operational partners. The Humanitarian Programme Cycle was linked to a Humanitarian Strategic Plan during 2012, further enhancing accountability.

45. In April, WFP became co-chair with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) of the IASC Needs Assessments Task Force. This group is to help roll out coordinated needs assessments, provide technical support for the multi-sector initial rapid assessment tool and support capacity development.

46. WFP had five staff members in the IASC HC pool in 2012, including one woman.

47. In 2012, for the first time WFP hosted the IASC Principals meeting and the launch of the 2013 Consolidated Appeals Process (CAP). The OCHA Emergency Relief Coordinator and WFP's Executive Director were joined by the Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis for the latter event.

48. WFP participated in all 27 humanitarian appeals in 2012, including 20 consolidated appeals and one flash appeal. Total requirements under the 2012 CAP amounted to US$8.8 billion, of which WFP's needs accounted for 36 percent. WFP resourced 82 percent of its requirements included under the 2012 appeals.

49. WFP was an active participant in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs (ECHA), which supports high-level communication and coordination among

United Nations agencies on humanitarian issues. The UNDG and ECHA Joint Working Group on Transition Issues was co-chaired by WFP and UNDP.

50. The global food security cluster co-led by WFP and FAO, and involving around 35 participating organizations, supported up to 40 national coordination systems. Increased lead-agency and partnership engagement has made the cluster an effective tool for humanitarian food security response. In Somalia, cluster activities are carried out with over 400 partners, and the Somalia food security cluster is also engaging in local leadership capacity at the sub-national level. In Afghanistan, WFP and FAO collaboration with the non-governmental organization (NGO) Afghan Aid highlighted the benefits of sharing cluster management responsibilities, leading to greater partner involvement, improved advocacy and better information management.

51. The 2012 global logistics cluster evaluation commissioned by WFP, UNICEF and the Netherlands found that logistics cluster operations led to enhanced programme delivery. Following a recommendation from the evaluation, the logistics cluster developed a strategic plan aimed at enhancing effectiveness. The cluster engaged several humanitarian and private-sector partners to support operations in the Sahel, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen.

52. The WFP-led emergency telecommunications (ETC) cluster continued its partnership with *emergency.lu*, a public-private partnership initiated by the Government of Luxembourg to provide satellite infrastructure and services to the international humanitarian community. This integrated ETC platform was deployed in Mali and South Sudan, providing free internet, voice communication and coordination services to over 3,000 humanitarian workers.

53. The United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) provides its 51 humanitarian partners with comprehensive supply chain solutions; in 2012, it provided relief items and logistics services amounting to US$30 million. UNHRD's emergency preparedness and response capacity was further enhanced with the completion of premises in Subang, Malaysia; the relocation of the Dubai depot to the International Humanitarian City in the United Arab Emirates; and the establishment of a UNHRD antenna in Las Palmas, Spain.

54. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service was active in 14 countries, including Afghanistan, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. It provided air services to 400 destinations and 870 humanitarian organizations, donors and media entities. Building capacity among WFP staff, other United Nations agencies, NGOs and governments remained a major focus of WFP's aviation efforts at the local level, with more than 280 people trained in aviation disciplines. WFP entered into a strategic partnership with the Economic Community of West African States to foster efficient humanitarian air services in West Africa and increase cooperation around aviation.

55. In order to enhance its work in countries undergoing transition, WFP and Harvard University's Programme for Humanitarian Policy and Conflict Research conducted a training session on integrated mission planning.

56. As a member of the Integration Steering Group chaired by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), WFP provided technical experts for an inter-agency review of policy and guidance on integrated planning in the field.

Coherence in Achieving Food Security

Global Food Security

57. The CFS, whose Secretariat consists of WFP, FAO and IFAD, further consolidated its role as the foremost inter-governmental, international and multi-stakeholder platform for food security and nutrition.

58. WFP was part of efforts to approve the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, the main global reference and guidance on the topic, with the aim of achieving food security for all and supporting the realization of the right to adequate food.

59. The 39th Session of the CFS (CFS 39) yielded several important outcomes, including: a policy linking social protection and food security; endorsement of the first version of the Global Strategic Framework on Food Security and Nutrition; proposals to prepare an Agenda for Action to address food insecurity in protracted crises; and agreement to develop principles for responsible agricultural investment. Further to reports by the CFS High-Level Panel of Experts, WFP and FAO organized a policy roundtable on social protection for food security, and another on food security and climate change, which resulted in key recommendations.

60. WFP and its partners continued to address the effect of high and volatile food prices on the most vulnerable within the HLTF. The HLTF has played a key role in ensuring coordination and coherence among its members on rising food prices as well as assessing risks, humanitarian impact, programme and policy implications, and developing public positions. Joint messaging was also developed by the HLTF for Rio+20 and the post-2015 process.

61. Important results were also achieved under the Mexican Presidency of the G20. Together with the RBAs and HLTF, WFP promoted social protection issues as well as food security and nutrition. Outcomes from the G20's development work included the establishment of the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board and a reaffirmation of the G20's commitment to remove export restrictions and extraordinary taxes on food purchased by WFP for humanitarian purposes.

62. WFP also continued contributing to the work of the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), a G20 initiative to enhance food-market transparency and foster coordination of policy action in responding to international price volatility. AMIS developed a database, which provides supply and demand statistics on specific commodities for participating countries, and a market monitor for information on global grain market conditions.

63. The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition, announced at the May 2012 G8 Summit, is a partnership among African leaders, G8 countries and the private sector to achieve global food security. WFP is engaged in the New Alliance in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique and the United Republic of Tanzania, working on, among other things, opportunities to support innovative risk-management tools to protect the poor and smallholder farmers, and measures to improve the nutritional status of women and children through interventions drawing on private-sector expertise.

64. An agreement signed in Johannesburg in November 2012 by 18 countries established the African Risk Capacity — a ground-breaking weather insurance project — as a specialized agency of the African Union. This new mechanism is particularly relevant in light of the drought in the Horn of Africa and the ongoing Sahel crisis, and will be able to offer insurance coverage to countries in 2013.

65. WFP's contribution to implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 involved innovative food assistance tools such as the implementation of cash-and-voucher interventions in 27 least developed countries in 2012. WFP also assisted national governments in: assessing the potential for local production of nutritious foods; food procurement; and measures such as twinning arrangements. WFP's policies, rules and regulations continued to foresee special financial measures and cost waivers for least developed countries. WFP, FAO and IFAD established a working group on agriculture, food security and nutrition, and rural development to support implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action.

Nutrition Coherence and Collaboration

66. WFP hosts the secretariat of REACH, an initiative on ending child hunger and undernutrition. WFP's Executive Director is a member of the SUN Lead Group, representing a broader network consisting of both REACH and the Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN). Since September 2011, WFP has chaired the SCN, where WFP, FAO, UNICEF, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other partner organizations collaborate to harmonize technical and policy guidance on nutrition.

67. In 2012, REACH expanded to 12 countries, all of which are SUN countries. In those countries, REACH is strengthening government capacity to scale up nutrition actions and improve nutrition management. More than 20 REACH facilitators were trained and deployed in all 12 countries, and are conducting multi-stakeholder analyses to address systemic gaps.

68. In line with its 2012 nutrition policy, WFP continued to scale up the development and use of specialized nutrition products and expand coverage during the critical 1,000 days from the start of pregnancy until age 2. The number of children under 2 receiving specialized nutrition products increased from 50,000 in 2008 to 3.2 million in 2011.

69. In Afghanistan, WFP partnered with the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition to produce an almond-based nutritious food product to treat malnourished children; half of its ingredients were sourced locally. In Ethiopia, WFP was part of an innovative public-private partnership with local farmers and manufacturers to develop a nutritious food product for children using locally grown chickpeas. WFP is also a member of the WHO Nutrition Guidance Expert Advisory Group, contributing to the harmonization of global guidelines on nutrition interventions, including those for treating moderate acute malnutrition among children; and nutrition for people living with HIV and tuberculosis (TB) patients.

70. In 2012, WFP continued contributing to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) strategic goals by working with the other ten UNAIDS Cosponsors. WFP established an inter-agency task team on food, nutrition and HIV, which promoted the integration of food and nutrition within HIV response. WFP supported HIV and TB programmes in 38 countries in 2011, providing food and

nutrition support to 2.3 million beneficiaries.[2] WFP's successful collaboration with governments, United Nations agencies and partners, and its effective design and implementation of HIV and TB programmes, opened up new opportunities for funding. In Swaziland, WFP received US$9 million in Global Fund grant money through the National Emergency Response Council on HIV/AIDS for an innovative two-year programme targeting orphans and other vulnerable children.

71. The 2013 FAO/WHO International Conference on Nutrition +21 will bring together policymakers, global and regional institutions, civil society, NGOs and the private sector to identify policy options and provide institutional guidance. WFP is a member of the Conference steering committee, which was launched in 2012 to support the planning process.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

72. Since its establishment in 2010, the WFP Gender Innovations Fund, supported by Australia, Germany and the private sector, has funded 41 projects in 35 countries, 10 of these projects in 2012. The fund allows WFP to promote initiatives on gender mainstreaming and gender equality, and foster partnerships at the country level.

73. In 2012, the fund supported an innovative, gender-sensitive, community-based risk analysis project in Zambia. In Bolivia, men and boys from food-insecure ar. emergency affected households were trained in childcare and nutrition, leading to their increased involvement in food and nutrition-related responsibilities. In southern Africa, a project was implemented to detect, prevent and mitigate gender-based violence in WFP operations.

74. With the support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), WFP is working to improve reporting on gender equality and women's empowerment, and has adopted the IASC Gender Marker to ensure the integration of gender into all projects. Training on gender analysis and the IASC Gender Marker was conducted in 2012, providing over 100 WFP staff members with the knowledge and skills to mainstream gender into their work.

75. WFP continued participating in inter-agency networks on gender at both the executive and operational levels, including the Executive Committee on Peace and Security, and the IASC Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. A senior focal point was designated for the task force and a work plan for 2012-2013 developed. WFP established an advisory group to address sexual exploitation and abuse within its operations.

76. In addition, WFP is a member of the Inter-Agency Network on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and is involved in rolling out the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. WFP's gender mainstreaming accountability framework, which holds senior managers accountable for ensuring that gender is integrated into WFP's work, is aligned with this action plan.

77. Collaboration among WFP, the other RBAs and UN-Women on gender issues continued in areas including capacity development, joint programming and joint events. In March 2012, IFAD hosted International Women's Day on behalf of the

[2] Figures for 2012 were not available at the time this document was finalized.

RBAs. WFP hosted the Executive Director of UN-Women to discuss the joint programme Accelerating Progress Toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women, which was launched in 2012. This five-year joint programme aims to improve the livelihoods and defend the rights of rural women and girls in Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Nepal, Niger and Rwanda.

Collaboration Among the Rome-Based Agencies

78. WFP, FAO and IFAD continued to enhance collaboration at the global, regional and national levels during 2012, including a strengthened dialogue among senior management on the ongoing reform of all three agencies. WFP's "Fit for Purpose" strategy identified partnerships — including those among the RBAs — as one of its seven priority themes. Dialogue on further enhancing partnerships will continue as WFP develops its new Strategic Plan.

79. WFP and FAO collaborated on 86 projects in 50 countries, including agricultural projects, joint food-security thematic groups and joint assessments. WFP and IFAD collaborated on 9 projects in 11 countries, primarily through food-for-work, food-for-training and micro-credit programmes.[2]

80. In an effort to mitigate the effects of drought in eastern Kenya, the RBAs are implementing a project to improve resilience and enhance gender equality. The agencies have combined their resources in Mozambique, through the "One United Nations" initiative to support smallholder farmers in accessing markets. As a result, the marketable surpluses of 33,000 farmers have increased by as much as 30 percent. Country-level collaboration will continue under the European Union-funded MDG1 Acceleration Programme, which aims to enhance livelihoods through improved utilization of nutritious foods.

81. WFP and FAO jointly implemented crop and food security assessment missions in Cambodia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

82. Following CFS decisions, WFP, FAO and IFAD organized the High-Level Expert Forum on Food Insecurity in Protracted Crises; its findings and recommendations will guide a working group convened to take the process forward. This includes the preparation of an agenda for action for food security in countries in protracted crises.

83. Under the FAO-WFP joint strategy on information systems for food and nutrition security, WFP, FAO and the International Food Policy Research Institute launched the Food Security Information Network aimed at helping countries and regions to strengthen their own food security information systems.

84. WFP, FAO and other partners continued collaborating through the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) steering committee to support IPC implementation. In September, a new version was released and WFP and FAO facilitated IPC training and analysis in several countries where both agencies are present.

85. Through the IFAD/WFP Weather Risk Management Facility, the two agencies began joint research on the use of remote sensing technologies for weather index insurance in support of smallholder farmers. WFP and FAO worked with NGO partners to strengthen collaboration on urban issues through the IASC's Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas Task Force. During the 2012 World Urban

Forum in Naples, Italy, WFP and FAO hosted an event on the challenges of assessing needs and assisting people in urban areas.

86. The *State of Food Insecurity in the World* reports are a regular area of RBA collaboration; the 2012 report was presented at CFS 39 in October. These agencies also hosted a side event with the European Union at CFS 39 to discuss, among other issues, how the 2011 Statement of Intent — a framework for collaboration — can be operationalized. The Global Governance for Hunger Reduction Programme is an initial example of collaboration under this framework.

87. The RBAs continued improving administrative collaboration through the common procurement team, which focuses on joint tendering, with combined savings projected at 3 percent of contract value. Beyond savings and administrative efficiencies, new platforms for inter-agency cooperation and opportunities for harmonizing regulations and procedures were identified.

Capacity Development

88. In 2012, WFP developed a set of guidance materials for capacity development, including a toolkit to assist country offices in working more strategically. The National Capacity Index, a new monitoring and evaluation framework for capacity development, was designed and is now included in WFP's Strategic Results Framework. This index aims to capture progress in capacity development and serve as a tool for designing capacity development activities.

89. Efforts to facilitate knowledge-sharing included documenting best practices in capacity development and hand-over of WFP-assisted food security programmes to national government partners. This information was disseminated to regional bureaux and country offices through the *Programme Guidance Manual*.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation

90. In 2012, WFP and the Government of Chile carried out capacity-strengthening initiatives on nutrition and food security with the governments of Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua and Paraguay. Regional bureau and Honduras country office staff undertook a joint mission with Mexican officials to the WFP Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in Brazil to exchange knowledge about school feeding initiatives.

91. The WFP Centre for Excellence also began capacity development work with Bangladesh, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Timor-Leste and the United Republic of Tanzania. The Centre hosted study visits from 15 countries, received 17 missions and hosted 200 government representatives. Eleven country missions took place, and action plans developed to determine follow-up.

92. The Purchase from Africans for Africa programme involving WFP, FAO, Brazil and the United Kingdom was launched in Brasilia in July 2012. The programme supports smallholder farmers in agricultural recovery, conducts local food purchase and distribution, and promotes learning.

93. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) established a disaster emergency logistics system in 2012 to strengthen disaster preparedness and response capacity in the region. WFP's new UNHRD facility in Subang, Malaysia is now

responsible for managing a stockpile of ASEAN relief items. This stockpile, primarily funded by the Government of Japan, will provide resources to ASEAN countries in the event of crises and allow participating countries to jointly respond and assist one another.

Partnership Initiatives

Non-Governmental Organizations

94. The 2012 Annual WFP Partnership Consultations had a broader geographical representation of NGO partners than in past years. The new format placed WFP's NGO partners in a leadership role and allowed for a more strategic and frank dialogue that focused on practical recommendations, which were then shared with the WFP Board membership. WFP recognizes the need to refine its partnership with NGOs and international organizations, including greater consultation to establish more open and robust engagement in programme design and to develop innovative ways of working together.

95. WFP and Oxfam America began to roll out the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative in Senegal in 2012. R4 is a strategic partnership between WFP and Oxfam America, supported by USAID, Swiss Re and the Rockefeller Foundation. It aims to test an integrated risk management approach that combines safety nets with community disaster risk reduction, micro-insurance, credit and savings.

96. WFP also worked with the Cash Learning Partnership, composed of Oxfam Great Britain, the British Red Cross, Save the Children, the Norwegian Refugee Council and Action Against Hunger/ACF International, to develop training on cash and voucher transfer programming.

97. In Niger, WFP, *Médecins sans frontières* and Epicentre researched the effects of various blanket approaches on acute malnutrition levels in children under 2 and their households. The results of this study are expected to guide large-scale nutrition programming.

98. In 2011,[2] WFP collaborated with more than 2,100 NGOs — 90 percent of them local organizations — and many other partners from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Together, these partners distributed 1.9 million mt of food on behalf of WFP, representing around half the total food distributed.

Purchase for Progress

99. Non-governmental organizations have been crucial partners in the Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative. With their strong grassroots base working with farmers' organizations, 160 NGOs partnered with P4P to build capacity, facilitate access to credit, improve post-harvest handling and promote gender equality.

100. WFP, FAO and IFAD have also seized many opportunities to work together to support P4P. WFP joined a working group on RBA collaboration around the International Year of Cooperatives 2012, and collaborated on side events to promote it, for instance during the Farmers' Forum convened by IFAD. In addition, FAO and IFAD are members of P4P's technical review panel, which meets annually to guide implementation.

101. FAO has provided supply-side and technical assistance in agricultural production in 11 countries, making it the most central P4P partner within the United Nations system. This support includes provision of improved seeds and post-harvest handling equipment; capacity building for farmers' organizations; and technical support in infrastructure development.

102. In Burkina Faso and Zambia, IFAD provided support to P4P in agricultural production and market value-chain development. Discussions regarding cooperation to facilitate access to credit for smallholders are ongoing in Ethiopia and Ghana.

Cash and Vouchers

103. By October 2012, WFP was implementing 63 cash-based operations with a combined transfer value of over US$356 million, or more than 7 percent of WFP's programme of work. This compares with US$203 million in 2011, US$138 million in 2010 and US$41 million in 2009. In the longer term, WFP aims to optimize the use of cash and vouchers: by 2015, they could account for up to 40 percent of all transfers.

104. WFP developed new tools and processes, and training for staff on cash-and-voucher transfers, reaching more than 250 operational managers. In addition to modifying its approach to response analysis in order to inform the choice of transfer modality, WFP developed a corporate system to facilitate cash-and-voucher transfer management and delivery, and a more rapid deployment at scale. Cash and vouchers were used to good effect during 2012 in the emergency responses to both the Sahel and Syrian Arab Republic crises.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience-Building

105. During the negotiations for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, WFP highlighted the need for fast-track funding to protect vulnerable and food-insecure people from climate-related risks, and emphasized the relationship of resilience to the underlying causes of vulnerability and food insecurity. A 2012 seminar with WFP's Executive Board, FAO, IFAD, the World Bank and other partners provided opportunities to share current thinking on resilience, including the links with disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and social protection.

106. At the regional level, WFP supported initiatives such as the Global Alliance for Action for Drought Resilience and Growth in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)'s Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative (IDDRSI). Updates of both the existing Memorandum of Understanding between WFP and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development and its action plan were initiated in 2012 to take into account both IDDRSI, and the Regional Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Platform, of which WFP is a member of the Interim Steering Committee.

107. WFP also strengthened regional and national capacities to carry out resilience interventions at scale. The Regional Bureau for West Africa and the Regional Bureau for East and Central Africa facilitated "operationalizing resilience" workshops for country offices. Several of these country offices are planning seasonal livelihood consultations with local partners, community representatives and local governments.

108. WFP played a lead role supporting the World Meteorological Organization in the development of the implementation plan for the Global Framework for Climate Services, which was approved in October 2012. Support to the disaster risk reduction and food security and agriculture components of this framework included case studies and technical expertise on the use of climate services for early warning, food security analysis, and risk management and financing.

109. As a member of the HLCP Senior Managers Group for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience, WFP collaborated with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDP and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to develop the United Nations Compact on Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience. This compact aims to guide United Nations efforts on disaster risk reduction and resilience in the years following the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015).

World Bank

110. WFP collaborated with the World Bank and other partners to set up the Sahel Response Emergency Portal, which provides information and spatial data related to the drought emergency. In addition, WFP became an official partner of Secure Nutrition, a World Bank-funded knowledge platform that seeks to bridge knowledge gaps among agriculture, nutrition and food-security practitioners.

111. The World Bank commissioned a qualitative study on real-time monitoring of social impacts of the food crisis in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan based upon WFP's data-collection systems.

112. Collaboration between the WFP school feeding team and the World Bank continued through joint appearances at the Global Child Nutrition Forum in Addis Ababa and joint technical-support missions.

113. WFP worked with the World Bank Agricultural Risk Management Team in the context of the G8, and G20 Platform on Agricultural Risk Management to coordinate efforts on risk assessment and agricultural index insurance.

114. In May 2012, the Bank and WFP expanded an existing technical assistance agreement to include technical advisory services in the area of investment management.

Social Protection and Safety Nets

115. An important outcome for WFP of the G20's development work was the establishment in 2012 of the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board, chaired by the World Bank and the International Labour Organization (ILO). The board aims to enhance global coordination and advocacy on social-protection issues and coordinate international cooperation on country-driven actions. It provides an important platform for system-wide coherence of policies and programmes at the centre of WFP's work, linking safety nets for food security and social protection, adding to the inter-agency architecture including the HLTF and the SUN movement. The conclusions of the CFS regarding food security and social protection provide additional support for work in this area.

116. WFP's updated 2012 safety nets policy is aligned with the social-protection initiatives of a number of partner organizations such as the World Bank and UNICEF, and provides a solid framework for integrating safety nets in general, and those for food assistance in particular, within the broader social-protection realm.

117. WFP has a unique role to play regarding safety nets: school feeding programmes, which WFP implements with governments, United Nations and NGO partners, reach 26 million children worldwide. Other important safety nets include mother-and-child nutrition, food-for-work and food-for-assets programmes. In

Ethiopia, WFP and partners have supported the Government's Productive Safety Net Programme since 2005. This programme supports 7.5 million people, 80 percent of whom participate in public works and asset-creation activities.

Private-Sector Partnerships

118. Private-sector expertise and engagement in public-private partnerships helped to integrate innovative approaches into the field of nutrition. WFP partnered with the life science company DSM on improving the formulation of fortified blended foods and introducing fortified rice and micronutrient powders into its food basket. It entered into a partnership with MasterCard to deliver innovative solutions for meeting the needs of vulnerable populations: for instance, the firm will provide expertise in technology and payment systems to assist WFP in scaling up the delivery of vouchers.

119. In 2012, WFP celebrated the tenth anniversary of its first corporate partnership with global logistics company TNT, which has been invaluable to WFP's supply chain management, emergency operations, school feeding programmes and advocacy activities. The partnership has also opened the door for broader engagement with the private sector to find better ways to deliver food.

120. An evaluation of the private-sector partnerships and fundraising strategy in 2012 promoted the full integration of the private sector into WFP's work.

Institutional Governance

121. The 2012 Joint Meeting of the Boards of WFP, UNDP/UNFPA/the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNICEF and UN-Women focused on the role of the United Nations in middle-income and least-developed countries, and the United Nations' contribution to the Istanbul Programme of Action, as well as the QCPR and issues related to countries in transition.

122. Discussions at the second informal meeting of the ECOSOC Bureau with the Bureaux of the Executive Boards of the United Nations funds and programmes involved enhancing interactions between ECOSOC and the Executive Boards. A meeting of the Presidents of the Executive Boards of the funds and programmes was convened during the ECOSOC operational activities segment in July; the President of WFP's Board participated by video conference. The meeting focussed on recommendations for the QCPR.

123. A delegation representing the Executive Boards of WFP, UNDP/UNFPA/ UNOPS and UNICEF visited Djibouti and Ethiopia in March 2012 to observe United Nations agency collaboration. These two countries were chosen for the 2012 visit in view of the development, humanitarian and environmental challenges they face.

Acronyms Used in the Document

AMIS	Agricultural Market Information System
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CAP	Consolidated Appeals process
CEB	Chief Executives' Board
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
ECHA	Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
ETC	emergency telecommunications
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
HLCM	High-Level Committee on Management
HLCP	High-Level Committee on Programmes
HLTF	High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
ICT	information and communications technology
IDDRSI	IGAD Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IPC	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
IRA	Immediate Response Account
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	non-governmental organization
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
P4P	Purchase for Progress
QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
RBA	Rome-based agency
RC	Resident Coordinator
TB	tuberculosis
Rio+20	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
SCN	Standing Committee on Nutrition
SG	Secretary-General
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition

UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHRD	United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WHO	World Health Organization

Decision 2013/EB.1/2 of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme adopted by the Board at its first regular session of 2013

Annual report for 2012 to the Economic and Social Council and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The Board approves the "Annual Report for 2012 to ECOSOC and FAO Council" (WFP/EB.1/2013/4). In accordance with decision 2004/EB.A/11, the Board requests that the Annual Report be forwarded to ECOSOC and the FAO Council along with the Board's decisions and recommendations.

18 February 2013